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11. (Amended) A method for dynamically composing a presentation from a plurality of multimedia components comprising the steps of:

selecting one or more of the multimedia components to be identified as an initial portion of the presentation;

programmatically selecting, one or more other multimedia components to be identified as a subsequent portion of the presentation; and

synchronizing the selected components to form the presentation.

Please cancel claims 12-22.

Please add the following new claims:

23. The method in claim 1, further comprising, prior to said receiving of said authored presentation documents, establishing a library of rules.

24. The method in claim 23, wherein said establishing of said library of rules is based on user input.

25. The method in claim 1, further comprising repeating said applying of said presentation rules to different sets of authored presentation documents.

26. The method in claim 1, wherein said authored presentation documents comprise pre-composed and completed authored broadcast presentations.

27. A method for creating a presentation comprising:  
creating a set of rules based on user input;

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after said creating process, identifying at least one multimedia component as an initial portion of said presentation;  
automatically selecting, without user intervention, at least one other multimedia component as a subsequent portion of the presentation based on said initial portion and said rules; and  
synchronizing said initial portion and said subsequent portion to output said presentation.

28. The method of claim 27, wherein said multimedia components comprise continuous media components.

29. The method of claim 27, wherein said multimedia components comprise at least one of audio, video, text, and image components.

30. The method of claim 27, wherein said multimedia components comprise non-continuous media components.

31. The method of claim 27, wherein said process of creating said rules is based on at least one of user input parameters, past presentation history, and a current state.

32. The method of claim 27, wherein automatically selecting process is responsive to at least one of line content and meta-data.

33. A method of dynamically generating a presentation sequence from a plurality of multimedia segments, said method comprising:  
creating a set of rules based on user input;  
after said creating process, receiving said multimedia segments from at least one data

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source;

selecting ones of said multimedia segments based on said rules;

sequencing selected ones of said of multimedia segments in accordance with said rules;

and

generating said presentation sequence in accordance with said sequencing.

34. A method of automatically generating a presentation from a plurality of pre-composed and completed authored broadcast presentations, said method comprising:

creating a set of rules based on user input;

after said creating process, receiving said broadcast presentations from at least one data source; and

applying said rules to said broadcast presentations to automatically produce, without user intervention, said presentation.

35. A method of automatically generating a presentation from a plurality of multimedia segments, said method comprising:

creating a set of rules based on user input;

after said creating process, receiving said multimedia segments from at least one data source; and

applying said rules to said multimedia segments to automatically produce, without user intervention, said presentation.

36. A method of automatically generating a presentation from a plurality of multimedia segments, said method comprising:

creating a set of rules based on user input;

after said creating process, receiving said multimedia segments from at least one data

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source; and

selecting ones of said multimedia segments based on said rules to automatically produce, without user intervention, said presentation.

37. A program storage device readable by machine tangibly embodying a program of instructions executable by said machine for performing a method of dynamically generating a presentation sequence from a plurality of multimedia segments, said method comprising:

creating a set of rules based on user input;

after said creating process, receiving said multimedia segments from at least one data source;

selecting ones of said multimedia segments based on said rules;

sequencing selected ones of said of multimedia segments in accordance with said rules;

and

generating said presentation sequence in accordance with said sequencing.

38. An automatic presentation generator comprising:

a library of rules that are based on user input;

an input adapted to receive information from at least one data source maintaining a plurality of multimedia segments; and

a computation engine adapted to apply said rules to said multimedia segments to automatically produce, without user intervention, a presentation.

39. The automatic presentation generator in claim 38, further comprising a set top box housing said library, said input, and said computation engine.

40. The automatic presentation generator in claim 38, further comprising a television housing

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said library, said input, and said computation engine.

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